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NEW ADMINISTRATIVE TERRITORIAL DIVISIONS: LAOS

A Report Prepared under an Interagency Agreement by the Federal Research Division, Library of Congress

March 1988

Author: Ly Burnham

Federal Research Division Library of Congress Washington, DC 20540-4840

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Preface

This study provides information on new administrative territorial divisions in Laos. Three provinces and one municipality were added between 1983 and 1985, bringing the total number in the country to 18 provinces and one municipality. Maps are included to indicate the adjusted administrative boundaries of affected provinces.

Laos presently has 19 major administrative territorial divisions, consisting of 18 provinces and one municipality. Prior to 1982, there were 15 provinces. Three new provinces--Bokeo, Bolikhamsai and Xekong--and one municipality--Vientiane--were added between 1982 and 1985.

Bokeo's area was carved from the provinces of Louang Namtha and Oudomxai, Bolikhamsai from Khammouan, and Xekong from the provinces of Saravan, Champasak and Attapu. Vientiane Muncipality, formerly part of Vientiane Province, became an independent city but remains the administrative center of Vientiane Province. The country's major territorial divisions and their administrative centers are listed below in alphabetical order:

Province/Municipality

Administrative Center

apu

02 Bokeo

03 Bolikhamsai

04 Champasak

05 Houaphan

06 Khammouan

07 Louang Namtha

08 Louangphrabang

09 Oudomxai

10 Phongsali

11 Saravan

12 Savannakhet

13 Vientiane

14 Vientiane Municipality

Attapu

Ban Houay

Muang Pakxai

Pakse

Xam Nua

Muang Khammouan

Louang Namtha

Louangphrabang

Muang Xay

Phongsali

Saravan

Savannakhet

Vientiane

Vientiane

15 Xaignabouri

16 Xekong

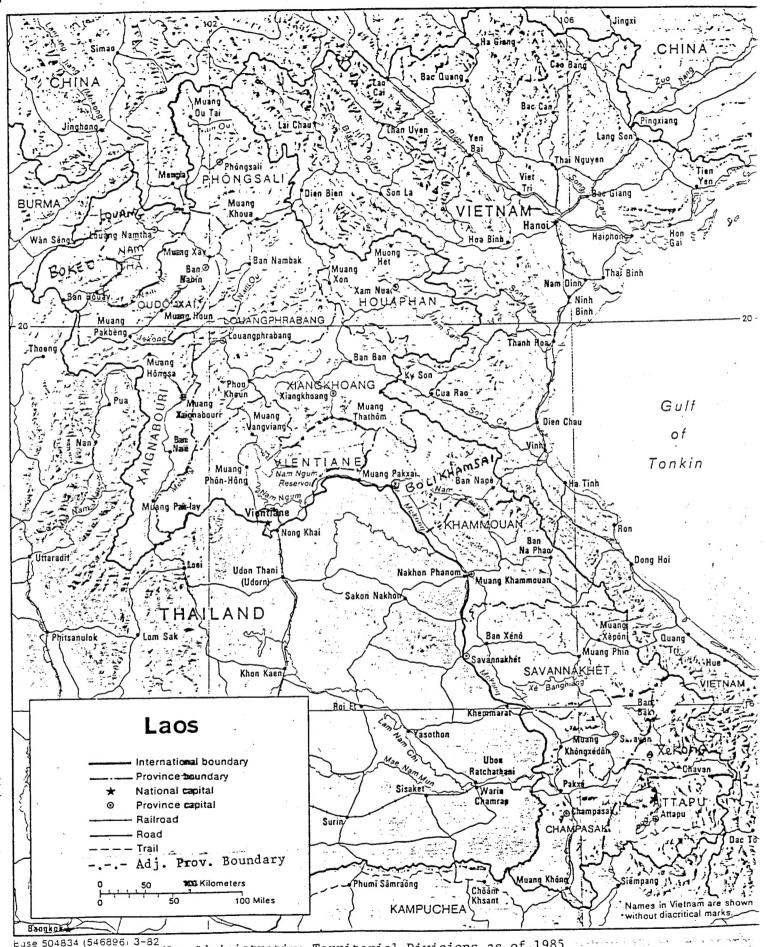
17 Xiangkhouang

Muang Xaignabouri Xekong Xiangkhouang

Note: Vientiane Muncipality occupies an area of 333,400 hectares or 33.34 square kilometers.

Sources: "Population Census Press Conference in Vientiane" in Foreign Broadcast Information Service, Asia/Daily Report, 20 June 1985.

Rapport sur la situation economique et sociale [de la] Republique Democratique Populaire Lao (Report on the Economic and Social Situation [of the] Lao People's Democratic Republic), Geneva: United Nations, April 1986.



New Administrative Territorial Divisions as of 1985